

## KANSAS CITY, TOO, LIKED "TOREADORS"

Play by Quad Club Original and Clean, Says Journal.

HARD TO PICK OUT STAR

Many Encores Ran Play Thirty Minutes Over the Regular Time.

Evidently Kansas City liked "The Land of the Toreador," presented at the Willis Wood Theater by the Quad Club of the University Monday and last night. Witness the following from the Kansas City Journal:

It lacked a good deal of being a regular musical comedy—"The Land of the Toreador." There wasn't a risqué line in the whole show and the display of lingerie ended a few modest inches above the shoe tops. The chorus was not only pretty, but it could sing. The principals also could sing. There wasn't a word or a note in book or score that was a "steal," and there wasn't a "spicy" scene or song or joke that had been inserted by the ex-business manager of a Coney Island roller coaster to "make it go."

Clearly "The Land of the Toreador" wasn't a regular musical comedy—but it "went great" just the same. There were few of the musical numbers that failed of at least five encores.

"A Clean, Coherent Story."

Evidently Messrs. Lakenan and Chenoweth, who wrote the book and lyrics, forgot the theatrical dictum that the "tired business man" can't appreciate a clean, coherent story, free from scenes interpolated on the mere strength of their suggestiveness, and that a song can't be a "hit" unless it breaks every rule of grammar and sounds like the ravings of an insane organ grinder. Being young and inexperienced and unacquainted with real live theatrical managers the student authors have yet to learn these things. The composer also seems to have realized that in order to please, according to the Broadway idea, his music must be strongly reminiscent of the season's greatest success.

But these things did not bother

## ILLINOIS TRACK MEET

SATURDAY, APRIL 20.  
2:30 P. M.

The Illinois meet Saturday will be the most important athletic event of the 1912 spring season.

Four sections, AA, BB, CC and DD on the north bleachers will be reserved. General admission will be 50 cents; 25 cents additional will be charged for reserved seat in above sections.

Activity ticket No. 25 is good for admission or may be exchanged for reserved seat on payment of the 25 cents additional charge.

Seats on sale at Co-op, Missouri Store, Penn's Pharmacy, Drug Shop.

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the large audience that greeted the "Quad" club players of Missouri University at the Willis Wood theater last night. The audience liked the show and it made it evident by demanding encores that ran the play thirty minutes overtime.

The piece needs revision, here and there, but all in all, it is by far the strongest production of its kind ever given in Kansas City by college students and in point of stage settings and costumes, excelled many of the productions of professionals. There was a marked absence of slabstick humor and most of the lines intended to be funny were really so. The authors took a few liberties with United States army regulations, extradition treaties, and the history of Mexico, but there was nothing in this that an audience inured to the ordinary musical comedy could object to. It was a riot of fun and sentiment with a setting of palms, blue waves and moonlight, and was altogether pleasing.

Hard to Pick Stars.

It was hard to pick out a star—just as hard as it was to tell which was the real song hit of the production. Camelia Anderson, as Anna Navez, justified her title as leading woman, and Jessie Rathel of Kansas City, as Kitty Phillips, "everybody's pal," was equally popular. Miss Rathel seemed peculiarly fitted for her straight comedy role and was always sure of a laugh. Robert Lakenan of Kansas City, as Kid Burke with his "side kick," Sergeant Murphy, shared a continuous laugh when on the boards. The two young men are the authors of the book and lyrics. George L. Boyle of Kansas City, as Bob Morgan, and Frank O. Schnaitman, as Alonzon De Coma, were also favorites. Schnaitman is responsible for the clever dances that enliven the piece.

Among the songs, "As Long as the Bands Play Dixie," by Joseph E. Brown of Kansas City, as Captain Adams, and a detachment of lads in khaki for chorus, stands out pre-eminent. There was a swing to the music that caught the audience and altogether the song was better than the average patriotic of musical comedy.

Musical Original.

"Lavender Lou" by Kid Burke and chorus was another strong favorite, a homely bit of sentiment after the fashion of the latest hits, that was done so well that the audience seemed to forget that the lyric was pure English and the music really original. "Boarding School" song by Anna Navez and her two chums, Marjorie and Kittie, "Heroes" by Murphy and Burke, "Raggy Robert's Rag," by Murphy and chorus and "Mexicana Anna" by Anna and guests were other hits.

Other Kansas City students in the cast besides the principals mentioned are Kathryn Gentry, one of the senioritas; Elizabeth Phillips, Sarah Hale, Alice Sparks, chiquitas, and Margaret Ross, one of the boarding school girls. The production was brought to Kansas City by the local alumni association of the University of Missouri.

Another's Paper's Comment.

The Kansas City Post says: With a cast that would rival that of almost any professional company, a chorus of pretty, lively and tuneful co-eds, and with songs, bright lines and electrical effects that were a novelty, "The Land of the Toreador," played by members of the Quad club of the University of Missouri, scored a marked hit before a record crowd at the Willis Wood last night. There were no hitches, everything went smoothly, and from the very beginning, the principals, seniors, chiquitas and caballerous handled themselves like "old timers." The music was good and like everything else about the play showed originality to a marked degree, and everything was appreciated, because the play ran at least thirty minutes overtime. Five encores was the least any song received.

Baseball.

First games in Missouri Valley series.

AMES—2 Games.  
Friday—3:30 p. m.  
Saturday—10:00 a. m.  
Note time of Saturday game.  
Admission 50 cts. Chairs 10 cts. \*\*\*

Christian College Spring Music Festival, Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra, April 17 and 18. Tickets three concerts \$2.00 \*\*\*

## REAL SHAMROCKS FOR THE ENGINEERS

James Keegan, Scotch Gardener, Brings Live Plant to Columbia.

IT CAME FROM IRELAND

Emigrant Was Disturbed in Peaceful Smoke By Train Wreck.

When future M. U. engineering students kiss the blarney stone St. Patrick's Day, they may be able to wear genuine shamrock grown here. James Keegan, who reached Columbia with his family just before the last St. Patrick's stunt, has a genuine plant which he is going to put into the ground.

Keegan is a Scotchman. His wife is also Scotch. His parents, however, came from the "Auld Country," in which "you never find a coward where the shamrock grows." Keegan's plant is from the lowlands of Scotland.

Keegan is a gardener. A friend, Charles McPherson, has been in the United States a year. McPherson had heard wonderful tales about the advantages of this country. His sister, Mrs. Alexander Stewart, induced him to bring his family to Columbia. McPherson has been helping care for the University dairy herd. He wrote his friend, Keegan, about this country.

That is how it happened that Keegan and his family left Scotland February 24.

The only trouble they had in New York there was answering numerous questions of the immigration authorities. Then they had to puzzle the American explanation of directions. When told that you go two blocks, Keegan thought two houses were sufficient. Bue he soon learned.

Near Danville, Ill., a wreck occurred on a bridge. Keegan had gone to the smoking compartment to puff his cob pipe. His wife was seated in the rear of the car with her three children. The coach lurched. People screamed. The woman stood on her head in the top of the coach. She managed to get her children out the door of the overturned car, she feared her husband must be dead in the wreckage. Not a trace of him could she find. She was in a strange country with her only friends miles away in another state. A little girl of 11 years suddenly clutched the mother's skirts and screamed, "There's Daddy!"

A Happy Moment.

That was the happiest moment she has ever known, explained the woman in Scotch dialect. They were all bruised and the woman was under the care of a physician for a time. The two girls, 11 and 12 years, and the boy, 16 years old, fared somewhat better. But Keegan had a narrow escape.

When he crawled from the car "without getting a decent smoke," he could not find his family. The water in the creek was gradually rising against the car which dammed the stream. Other cars were overturned and five persons were dead. A sledge hammer was near. Keegan took the hammer and walked along the car. Suddenly he went down through the glass into icy water. A friendly hand caught him by the collar and saved him from being sucked under the crashed coach.

It was after this close call that he found his family.

"I was a lively corpse, so I told her," said the Scotchman. "Then I wanted to try for a hawf pick." The man to whom he spoke thought he wanted to try for a broken pick. But the Scotch friend explained that it was a bottle of whisky floating in the water. The wife remonstrated with success.

"Sure and I told her I wanted to drink their health after the wreck." They were taken to a hospital to recuperate from the shock. The St. Louis bridge was ever on the minds of this family when they started again on their journey. The wife was worried and was eager to know when they would cross this terrible bridge. The bridge was crossed in darkness and she did not know it until in St. Louis.

When asked how he liked America, Keegan replied: "Good, if they hadn't flung us over a brig. 'I'm here to stay now. The next time I ride on the train I'll walk the brig first."

They are now living with Charles McPherson. At least four families have come to Columbia from Scotland. Luke McLaughlin was the fourth to arrive and Keegan is now in the employ of the agronomy department of the College of Agriculture.

## Brief Local News

H. B. Hill went to Hallsville today on business.

A. R. Crosswhite went to St. Louis on business today.

F. A. Thompson went to St. Louis today on business.

Mrs. M. F. Gooding returned to Moberly today. She has been visiting Mrs. Roy Kings of Columbia.

Mrs. Stella Nichols left for her home in Junction City, Kas., today after visiting Miss Myrtle Phillips.

Michael McGinnity went to Marshall, Mo., today after a visit to M. R. Collins.

Mrs. G. M. Crockett went to Marshall today. She has been visiting Mrs. F. G. Harris of Columbia.

Mrs. M. F. Crow went to Salisbury today after visiting her mother, Mrs. L. Grimm.

B. M. Oliver went to Moberly this morning. He has been here on business.

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Admission 50 cts. Chairs 10 cts. \*\*\*

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